



#### 218082US-6 PCT

ERICH BAYER

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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IN RE APPLICATION OF:

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: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 10/030,191

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FILED: 4 February 2002

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FOR: OTOPLASTY FOR BEHIND-THE-EAR

(BTE) HEARING AIDS

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

### IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the title on page 1, line 1 with the following:

--OTOPLASTIC FOR BEHIND-THE-EAR HEARING AIDS--.

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-8 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 9-26 as follows:

9. (New) Earpiece for behind-the-ear parts of hearing acoustics devices, by which a signal conductor that comes from the behind-the-ear device can be positioned in a patient's auditory canal, wherein the earpiece is individually adapted to the patient's anatomy, and a part that provides a hold essentially has a shape of a clip, which follows an outer edge of the